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Rockville Designates Transportation Planner as Pedestrian, Bicycle Coordinator

ROCKVILLE, Md., May 4, 2011 -In an effort to better coordinate pedestrian and bicycle needs in Rockville, the Mayor and Council approved a recommendation to designate Matthew Folden, a transportation planner in the Public Works Department, as Pedestrian and Bicycle Coordinator.

Folden, who has worked for the City of Rockville since July 2008 in the Traffic and Transportation Division, will now also oversee the City's Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety Group. The group is responsible for addressing concerns about pedestrian and bicycle services, and providing those services as effectively and efficiently as possible.

"We have found the right person to take on this responsibility," said Emad Elshafei, Chief of the Traffic and Transportation Division. "Matt has a good grasp of the City's pedestrian and bicycling needs, so we know he'll be able to bring our efforts to the next level."

Folden will serve as liaison to the Rockville Bike Advisory Committee (RBAC) in addition to his current duties as the staff liaison to the Traffic and Transportation Commission. In his current position as a transportation planner, he is responsible for two major Capital Improvements Program (CIP) initiatives: pedestrian safety and sidewalks. Folden is responsible for traffic calming measures, which include working to slow traffic on roads and ensuring roads accommodate bicyclists and pedestrians.

Folden also oversees the City's annual Bike to Work Day, which will take place Friday, May 20. To learn more about Bike to Work Day, go to www.rockvillemd.gov/recreation/bicycling/bike-work.htm.

Designating Folden as the pedestrian and bicycle coordinator supports the City's focus on multi-modal transportation and the Complete Streets Policy. That policy commits the city to designing and constructing infrastructure to support all modes of transportation in a safe and user-friendly manner.

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